NAM Meeting of Economic Cooperation held at Harare

4362. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state ;

(a) what are the details of the important aspects discussed at the two day ministerial meeting of the NAM on economic cooperation held recently at Harare ;

(b) whether India expressed its reservations on some of the parts of the documents prepared at the meeting; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The Standing Ministerial Committee, which was set up by the Eight Nonaligned Summit in Harare, held its first substantive session from July 4 to 7, 1988. The only substantive item on the Committee's agenda was an Assessment of the Current State of the North-South Dialogue and Proposals for its Revitalisation. The Committee held extensive discussion on all aspects of the North-South dialogue. At its conclusion it issued a Communique and a Declaration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Since the meeting was of short duration, the second document, i.e., the Declaration could not be fully negotiated during the Conference. In order to retain our option to further improve and refine the document at any subsequent Meeting, we reserved our comments.

Indian Air Force Plane Crashes

4363. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of Indian Air Force Plane crashes in last three years; the year-wise details indicating the type of the plane separately;

(b) what is the number of Air Force personnel killed and monetary loss incurred; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to eliminate these accidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) and (b) It will not be in the public interest to disclose the details regarding number of air crashes, Air Force personnel killed and monetary loss incurred.

(c) Flying accidents cannot be altogether eliminated. To minimise them, however, a number of steps have been taken by Government which is an on-going process. These are given below :—

(i) The training pattern has been modified and a new syllabi has been introduced with emphasis on advanced operational training exercises.

(ii) The training syllabi have been reviewed in depth to ensure that junior pilots are introduced to high workload/high risk exercises in a progressive/regulated manner. Standards for each phase of training have been set and are being monitored.

(iii) Radio and Navigational aids are being given particular attention. Mandatory requirement of essential aids at airfields has been defined.

(iv) Appropriate instructions have been issued to ensure that medical factors like aircrew fatigue

and hypoglycemia do not contribute to accidents.

(v) Instrument flying training and night flying training have been reviewed to meet operational requirements by day and night.

(vi) Setting and quanitification of flying training standards in flying training establishments have been established.

(vii) A system of monitoring training standards and standards of Qualifying Flying Instructors has been introduced.

(viii) Accidents due to design or manufacturing deficiencies are brought to the notice of the manufacturers for introducing modifications in aircraft. Pending such modifications, short term remedial measures, in consultation with them, are expeditiously implemented.

(ix) Technical type Training Schools are being set up for various types of aircraft. Technicians will be given extended training on particular aircraft types.

(x) Setting and quantification of standards in technical training establishments has been undertaken.

(xi) The Crew Chief System of aircraft servicing has been introduced on trial basis.

(xii) The training period for Branch Commissioned Officers has been extended to include technical and management education.

(xiii) Wing Maintenance has been restructured and percentage of untrained technicians reduced.

(xiv) Experienced Supervisors have been placed In-charge of aircraft servicing repairs, and teams of technicians formed to service particular aircraft.

(xv) Airfield Environment Management Committees have been set up under the Chairmanship of the concerned Collector/Distt. Magistrate to take necessary steps to keep the environment around airfields safe for flying.

(xvi) Bird hazard combat teams have been established on an experimental basis at selected airfields. These teams report bird activity to pilots and also kill/scare away the birds.

(xvii) Use of bird watchers at airfields to keep pilots informed about bird activity in the airfield circuit areas.

(xviii) Publicity drive by means of radio, TV, newspapers and posters is being undertaken to educate the general public about bird hazard to aircraft and necessity to maintain clean environment around airfields.

(xix) The State Governments and local bodies are being regularly contacted to take steps for sanitisation of areas outside the perimeter of Defence airfields.

Policy for Appointment of Chief Executives/Directors Etc. in the Public Sector Undertakings

†4364. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any policy has been laid down by the Government with regard to the appointment of Chief Executives/Directors in the Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the number of cases; if any, pending with the various

†Previously unstarred Question 3907, transferred from the 30th August, 1988.